ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS **TEAM OFFICE OF CURRICULUM** AND STANDARDS **SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Coming Events:

- ELA Fall Update South Carolina History and Archives Building September 12, 2005
- ELA Support Documents Professional Development **Embassy Suites** September 13, 2005
- **ELA Best Practice** Seminar Series, All grades Cathy Toll **Embassy Suites** September 23, 2005
- WIN Conference Palmetto Expo Center Greenville October 6-7, 2005

For information about these programs, please refer to the articles in this issue of Literacy Links. This issue and past issues of Literacy Links can be found on the State Department's web page at www.myscschools.com.

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Literacy Links

Volume VI, Issue I

ELA Team Provides Support and Offers Professional Development Sessions for Standards Documents

In order to continue to support months of 2006. the effective implementation and understanding of the English lan- It is strongly encouraged that tion about your sessions will be Standards 2002.

bands (preK through grade 2, spring sessions. grades three through five, grades six through eight, and English I There is no need to register for through English 4); additional resources including professional involved in the South Carolina Columbia area and will be begin at resources (labeled Best Practice Reading Initiative (SCRI K-5 Phases 9:30 A.M. and conclude at 3:30 P.M. Resources on the website); and a document that connects the ELA standards to the Revised Bloom's Reading First or SCREADS. A If you have questions regard-Taxonomy.

These resources may be found by (www.myscschools.com) and clickand Standards. Once there, simply click on the ELA content area page Documents icon.

Professional development on the tration information. use of these support documents will be provided for school teams. While the schools referenced in

guage arts (ELA) curriculum stan- schools form a team structure presented at a later date. dards, the ELA team at the State consisting of an administrator, a Department of Education (SDE), in teacher representing each of the Although professional developcollaboration with other teams grade bands, and a media specialist ment will be offered, it is imporand offices in the agency and or special educator. School teams tant to know that these resources teachers and administrators across may choose which date in the fall the state, has developed docu- and which date in the spring they the SDE website so that field rements related to the South Carolina wish to attend, but the team view comments can be received. It English Language Arts Curriculum should attend the sessions to- is the hope of the SDE that teach-These support documents include information with the other teach- back during a formal review procstrand support documents for ers and administrators at the ess in February 2006 (information each of the four strands of the school level. Since the fall and to follow) in order to revise and standards (reading, writing, com- spring sessions will offer different improve the documents. munication, and research); unit information, it is suggested that a modules for each of the grade team attend both the fall and The registration form that is in-

> these sessions if your school is I, 2, and 3; SCRI-MG Phases I and Lunch will be provided. 2; and SCRI-HS), South Carolina these groups.

Below Average or Low Performing 7 3 4 - 0 7 9 0 of School Quality. The Office of jredman@comporium.net. School Quality will provide regis-

beginning this fall with a follow-up the two preceding paragraphs will session offered during the spring attend specially scheduled ses-

sions, they will still need to develop a team structure. Informa-

are posted as Unedited Drafts on gether. It will be the school team's ers and administrators will use responsibility to share the session these resources and provide feed-

> cluded in this newsletter has all of the dates and locations for these professional development sessions. All sessions will be held in the Columbia area and will be begin at

separate session will be held for ing the support documents or the accompanying professional development, please going to the SDE website In addition, schools identified as contact Cathy Jones at 803ing on the Office of Curriculum by the Office of School Quality do cjones@sde.state.sc.us. If you not need to register. A session will have questions regarding your be held for these schools and re- team's registration, please and go to the Standards Support lated specialists through the Office contact Judy Redman at

ELA Best Practice Seminars Start New School Year

tors by the English Language Arts Team in year. the Office of Curriculum and Standards ing Association (SCIRA).

tember 23, 2005, with a session for teach- registration form. ers and administrators of all levels. This

included at the end this newsletter. Please 0790. note that you may register for all of the Cathy Toll will kick off this series on Sep- sessions you wish to attend on the same In the even of inclimate weather in

session will focus on coaching and reflec- If you have questions regarding your to the session for cancellation infor-

A series of seminars highlighting best practive practice and will be held at the Em- registration for a particular session, tices in the area of English language arts bassy Suites Hotel off Greystone Boule- please contact Judy Redman at will again be offered during the 2005-2006 vard in Columbia. Eleven additional ses- iredman@comporium.net. If you school year to South Carolina K-12 educa- sions will be offered throughout the school have questions about the seminar, the topics, or the presenters, please contact Cathy Jones at and the South Carolina International Read- A registration form with instructions is cjones@sde.state.sc.us or 803-734-

> the Columbia area, please call 803-734-0790 after 6:00 P.M. the day prior

Date	Presenter	Audience	Торіс	Location	
September 23, 2005	Cathy Toll	All	Coaching and Reflective Practice	Embassy Suites	
October 20, 2005	Cris Tovani	Middle/High	Content Area Reading	TBD	
November I, 2005	Frank Baker	Middle/High	Beginning To Integrate Viewing Into the ELA Classroom	Embassy Suites	
November 4, 2005	Frank Baker	Elementary	Beginning To Integrate Viewing Into the ELA Classroom	Leaside	
December 8, 2005	Nancy Akhavan	Elementary	How To Align Literacy Instruction, Assessment, and Standards	Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center	
January 12, 2006	Ellin Keene	All	The Intricacies of the Mind: Teaching Reading Comprehension	Columbia Conference Center	
February 2, 2006	Barry Lane	Middle/High	Revision in Writing	Columbia Conference Center	
March 2, 2006	Chryse Hutchins	Elementary	Seven Keys to Comprehension	Seawell's	
March 6, 2006	Jim Trelease	All	Reading Aloud	Columbia Conference Center	
March 20, 2006	Lester Laminack	All	Children's Literature	Columbia Conference Center	
March 21, 2006	Lester Laminack	Elementary/ Middle	Writing Workshop and Author's Craft	Columbia Conference Center	
April 4, 2006	Barbara King- Shaver	Middle/High	When Text Meets Text—Helping High School Readers Make Connections in Literature	Columbia Conference Center	
TBD	Mike Ford	Elementary	Where Have All the Bluebirds Gone? How to Soar With Flexible	TBD	

Applying Standards through Contextual **Teaching**

The Piedmont Area Consortium is offering Applying Standards All participants will receive inthrough Contextual Teaching struction on curriculum stanthis fall semester. Three hours

son University.

This graduate course will provide participants with standardsbased relevant training in the area of Communication for the Workplace.

dards, contextual teaching meth-

development, and technology to 7:30 P.M. at Piedmont Technistandards. Teachers will have cal College. the opportunity to experience the workplace through business/ industry tours.

deadline for registering for this 941-8434 course is August 15, 2005. The ren.j@ptc.edu. first class will be held on Mon-

will be awarded through Clem- odologies, integration of career day, August 29, 2005, 4:30 P.M.

If you would like a registration form or if you have any questions, please contact Jill A registration fee of \$100 is Warren at the Piedmont required for the course. The Area Consortium at 864-

Conferences Meet a Variety of Needs for Teachers

Conference 2005

This year's Early Childhood and Family Literacy Conference, Together for South area of North Carolina in the 1960s. Carolina's Children and Families, will focus on South Carolina's Good Start, Grow Smart Also, during the breakout sessions some of developmentally appropriate environments; and strategies to strengthen family literacy programs.

ber 14-16, 2005, at the Embassy Suites Hotel off Greystone Boulevard. DSS and registration fee is \$250.

Sessions will provide valuable information For more information, you may to professionals in childcare, Head Start, First Steps, and public school settings. Anyone working directly or indirectly with children birth through age five or their families is encouraged to attend.

Registration is limited to 300 partici- The Department of English and Foreign pants, and the deadline for registering is September I, 2005. For information call 803-777-0552.

WIN's Fall Writing Conference

Make plans now to attend the Writing Kwame Dawes will open the conference Improvement Networks' annual Fall Writ- with a workshop on teaching poetry. Po-Expo Center in Greenville on October 6-7, a dinner theater will be offered in the eve- For more information, visit Key: Unlocking Doors to Student Success in scheduled for November 4. All Contents and All Grades.

You may want to arrive a day early to The South Carolina Literacy Conference Cheripko, author of Rat and Imitate the Literacy: What Readers and Writers Need. Tiger. On Friday, Shelley Harwayne, internationally recognized consultant and au- This conference is sponsored by South site at www.scmsa.org. Information thor of Lifetime Guarantees and Lasting Im- Carolina Reading Recovery, South Carolina will be posted as it becomes availpressions, will do the honors.

Ellen James Joins WIN

Ellen James became the director Network director this May.

Ellen has been an educator in South Carolina since 1979. She has taught a range of English

Early Childhood/Family Literacy Fall Author Kerry Madden will be the luncheon Reading First. keynote speaker on Thursday. Her book, Gentle's Holler, is set in the Maggie Valley Contact Pam Huxford at 803-734-

universal voluntary learning standards for the pilot teachers who are working with SCCTE at The Beach children ages 3-5; authentic assessment; the English I and English 2 curriculum resources will present the resource modules. For those of you who do not have the 2006, at Kiawah Island Resort. Young Adult novels used in these resources, R.L. Bryan is offering collections The conference, SCCTE at the Beach: Re-This conference is scheduled for Septem- of titles to use with these resources.

Pre-conference registration is \$30, and recertification credit will be given. The registration for conference participants is \$150 for the two days.

> download the conference brochure directly from the WIN web page at www.winsc.org or call 803-777-0340.

Language Arts Conference at Claflin For more information, contact Re-**University**

Language at Claflin University in Orangeburg, SC, will host a two-day conference on language, literature, and pedagogy No- SCIRA 2006 Conference vember 3-4, 2005.

ing Conference to be held at the Palmetto etry readings will be in the afternoon, and 2005. The theme this year is Writing is the ning. Concurrent conference sessions are

South Carolina Literacy Conference

enjoy one of two pre-conference sessions will be held at Charleston Place Hotel in on the afternoon of October 5, 2005. Charleston, South Carolina, December 12- 3-5, at the Myrtle Beach Convention Cen-Thursday's keynote speaker is Jan 13, 2005. This year's theme is Inquiry into ter.

Reading Initiative, and South Carolina able.

language arts courses in Rich- the Office of Assessment. She the constructed-response and land District One, developmen- has helped to develop English extended-response items on tal studies reading and writing language arts assessments for courses at Midlands Technical of the Writing Improvement College, and recertification programs: PACT, HSAP, and courses through two of South Carolina's writing projects.

> For the past seven years, Ellen has worked at the South Carolina Department of Education in

South Carolina's three testing EOCEP (end-of-course). In addition to working on the development of these tests, Ellen has worked with contractors to train readers to score

8825 or phuxford@sde.state.sc.us if you have any questions.

This year's SC Council of Teachers of English annual conference is January 26-28,

flecting on Our Practice, brings authors such as Lester Laminack, Cassandra King, and Mary Alice Monroe, to South Carolina's shore. Newly elected NCTE Vice President Kathleen Yancey will also make a keynote presentation.

Conference proposals are due by September 15, 2005. Proposals can be downloaded from www.sccte.org.

becca Kaminski, SCCTE Conference Director, at 864-250-6712 or krebecc@clemson.edu.

The 31st annual SCIRA conference, Chasing Knowledge through the Pages of a Book, will be held at the Myrtle Beach Convention February 16-18, 2006.

www.scira.org for conference proposals and registration information.

SCMSA 2006 Conference

The South Carolina Middle School Association's annual conference for 2006 is March

For more information, visit the web-

PACT and HSAP.

She has also provided informational sessions about the ELA testing programs and NCS Mentor at the Fall Writing Conference, SCIRA, and SCASA.

SCRI Grows Across Districts and Schools

Since 1999, the Institute of Reading has • endeavored to transform the teaching of readers and writers in South Carolina by providing high quality professional development to teachers of students in grades K-12. Created in 1999 as a collaborative venture between the State Department of . Education and the General Assembly, the Institute has the following goals:

- to review the best practices in the teacher of reading;
- to provide teachers with professional development and support for implementing best practices in the teaching of reading; and
- to award competitive grants to school districts for designing and providing a comprehensive approach to reading instruction based on best practices.

To this end, it has accomplished the following:

- conducted the first-ever elementary and middle school reading summits.
- created and implemented the South Carolina Reading Initiative (SCRI) in grades K-5, in collaboration with the University of South Carolina and the National Council of Teachers of English

- collaborated with the Office of Early activities include the following: Childhood at the SDE to ;implement SC READS, a federal grant program • aimed at ensuring children in eligible pre-K-3 grade schools learn to read by the end of third grade.
- collaborated with SCIRA to sponsor a best practice seminar series for middle and high school teachers on the • teaching of reading and writing in the content areas, as well as yearly best . practice summer institutes for teachers of grades 4-12.
- applied for and received a federal Reading First grant to continue the • work of the SCRI in eligible K-3 schools beginning in January 2003 and providing professional development in effective reading instruction for all K-3 teachers and K-12 special education teachers.
- collaborated with various businesses . to develop the Cool Books program aimed at providing quality children's literature for reading aloud in grades pre-K-8.

During 2005-06, the Institute will continue its efforts to increase the knowledge base of teachers and thereby raise the achievement of students in districts and schools throughout the state. Its major

- Providing a fifth year of ongoing professional development to the SCRI K-5 Phase I literacy coaches; a third year of study to SCRI K-5 Phase 2; and a second year of study to SCRI K-
- Providing a fourth year of training for the SC READS (K-3) literacy coaches.

5 Phase 3.

- Assisting with the implementation of South Carolina's federal Reading First grant which is funding year two of study for SCRF literacy coaches.
- Co-sponsoring the fifth English Language Arts Best Practice Seminar Series for middle and high school teachers on the teaching of readers and writers in grades 6-12 and summer best practice institutes for teachers of students in grades 4-12.
- Implementing SCRI at the middle school level via year three of study for SCRI-MG Phase I coaches and beginning a new SCRI-MG Phase 2 cohort.
- Starting year I of SCRI-HS.
- Supporting the Cool Books program.

The attached table lists the number of districts, schools, and literacy coaches who are participating in SCRI in 2005-06.

2005-06 SCRI/SC READS/SCRF Implementation

2005-00	SCRI/SC REAL		piementatic	/II
Initiative		Districts	Schools	Literacy Coaches
State-funded Initiatives				
SCRI K-5 Phase 1		15	42	22
SCRI K-5 Phase 2		10	25	21
SCRI K-5 Phase 3		13	30	29
SCRI-MG Phase 1		16	27	19
SCRI-MG Phase 2		19	26	26
SCRI-HS		25	32	28
SC READS (non-SCRF)		8	16	16
	Totals	43	198	162
Federally-funded Initiatives				
SCRF		23	51	53
1 SCRF		23	37	38
2 SCRF/SC READS		10	14	15
	Totals	23	51	53
NI-1				

Notes:

- In addition to training 53 literacy coaches for the SCRF districts, we are training 71 interventionists who are working one on one and with small groups of struggling readers.
- SCRI is implementing its coaching model in 53 different districts across the state.

ELA Team Presents Fall Update

conduct a fall English language arts update literacy leaders on issues concerning K-12 call 803-896-4408. for all district level language arts coordina- English language arts in our state. So that tors and literacy leaders and college/ the meeting will have relevance for you, So that we can plan appropriately, university literacy faculty on Monday, Sep- please use the response form to submit please complete the attached retember 12, 2005, from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 topics, questions, and/or concerns for sponse form and return it to Judy P.M. at the South Carolina Department of discussion. Archives and History in Columbia.

A.M. Lunch will be served around noon.

The State Department of Education will The purpose of the meeting is to update further assistance with directions, you may

To assist you in your travel to the meeting, attend the meeting. If you have ques-Registration will be held from 9:30 A.M. to the South Carolina Department of Ar- tions about this information, please 10:00 A.M., during which time we will serve chives and History is located at 8301 Park- contact Suzette Lee by phone at 803coffee only. The meeting will begin at 10 lane Road in Columbia. For directions, 734-6103 or by e-mail at please see the attachment. If you need slee@sde.state.sc.us.

Redman no later than Friday, September 2, 2005, if you will be able to

English Language Arts Team

In Teaching with Fire, Poetry That Sustains the Courage to Teach, edited by Sam M. Intrator and Megan Scribner, we are encouraged to stay connected to our colleagues. "To do our best teaching, we must stay connected. Connected to our inner life, our colleagues, or students, and the subjects we teach. When we work and live in isolation, we miss out on what we need most: empathy, shared wisdom, and communal expertise." Each month, the English Language Arts (ELA) Team in the Office of Curriculum and Standards publishes Literacy Links, its electronic newsletter, as a means of helping you stay connected with ELA programs, activities, and projects.

	Position	Room	Phone	Email
Suzette Lee	Coordinator, ELA Team and Institute of Reading	803-A	803-734-6103	slee@sde.state.sc.us
Pam Huxford	Elementary ELA Consultant; SC Reading Recovery Coordinator; SC Reads; SCRF Intervention Model	802-A	803-734-8825	phuxford@sde.state.sc.us
Cathy Jones	Elementary ELA Consultant; ELA Standards Implementation; SCRI K-5 Phase 1 Continuing Contact; SCRI K-5 Phase 2		803-734-0790	cjones@sde.state.sc.us
Caroline Savage	Middle Grades ELA Consultant; SCRI–MG Phases 1 and 2	802-D	803-734-4770	csavage@sde.state.sc.us
Allison Norwood	Secondary ELA Consultant; Applied Academics; English 1 and 2 Curricu- lum Resource Projects; SCRI-HS	916-A	803-734-2469	anorwood@sde.state.sc.us
Pam Wills	Elementary ELA Consultant; SC Reading First Coordinator	802-B	803-734-8391	pwills@sde.state.sc.us
Pat Branham	Elementary ELA Consultant; SC Reading First	801 F	803-734-4326	pbranham@sde.state.sc.us
Bev Collum	Elementary ELA Consultant; SC Reading First	801-H	803-734-7939	bcollum@sde.state.sc.us
Gail Tyndale	Administrative Specialist	803	803-734-8556	gtyndale@sde.state.sc.us
Sonya Green	Administrative Specialist	801	803-734-2372	srgreen@sde.state.sc.us
Pat Lail	Administrative Specialist	803	803-734-8155	plail@sde.state.sc.us
Sue Ondera	Administrative Specialist	801	803-734-5803	sondera@sde.state.sc.us

Initiatives Stay Hot Over the Summer

Reading Recovery

Reading Recovery professionals from around the state will attend a Reading Recovery Summer Institute sponsored by held at the Columbia Conference Center.

The keynote speaker for the two-day insti- Framing Best Practice: English I and tute will be Mary Fried, a nationally recog- English 2 Curriculum and Instruction mote accelerated learning and working sent, only three modules have been devel-Recovery.

For additional information regarding districts around the state. the institute, contact Georgia Nemeth or Susan Fullerton, Reading Teachers who have been trained to use Recovery trainers, at 864-656-6149.

SC Reading First

Workshops are planned to help kindergarten teachers in SCRF schools incorporate ules, which is a study of humor. The re-SCRF expectations and requirements into their school day. The first workshop for SCRF kindergarten teachers and administrators will be held on August 24 and 30 at For all secondary teachers who have not

On August 29-30, 2005, more than 200 inform instruction, and planning and imple- Cayce High School, just minutes from menting small groups.

The second workshop for SCRF kindergar- If you have any questions about eithe Reading Recovery Training Center at ten teachers will focus on the use of core ther of these curriculum resources, Clemson University. The institute will be reading programs. This workshop will be please contact Allison Norwood at conducted September 22, 2005.

nized Reading Recover trainer at Ohio This June, over 175 English 2 teachers State University. Topics for presentations were trained to use the modules for the will include teaching responses that pro- English 2 curriculum resource. At the prewith hard to reach children in Reading oped for this resource, but during this school year, the remaining five modules will be developed and piloted in seven

> the English I curriculum resource will have the opportunity to attend four more sessions with Dr. Janet Allen. The first session will present the last of the eight modmaining three sessions will revisit the existing modules and make improvements.

Columbia Conference Center. These been trained to use the English I and Engworkshops will focus on managing the 120- lish 2 curriculum resources, we will have

minute literacy block, using assessment to an institute June 5-8, 2006, at Brookland downtown Columbia.

> anorwood@sde.state.sc.us or 803-734-2469.



Landrum High School English teacher Beth Pace talks to teachers during a break out session during the English 2 curriculum resource unveiling in June. Beth's group presented the With Justice for All module.

Organizations Enlist Student Writers

South Carolina Young Writers' Conference

The South Carolina Young Writers' Conference will be held Sat- ence. urday, March 25, 2006, at Ballentine Elementary School.

The conference is sponsored by the South Carolina State Council of the International Reading Association, the South Carolina Council of Teachers of English, the South Carolina Association of School Librarians, the South Carolina Arts Commission, the Ackinson Consulting Scholarship South Carolina State Department of Education, the South Carolina Writing Project, and the South Carolina Middle School Association.

Students have the opportunity to hear and work with at least two professional writers during the conference. Some of this year's authors include Anthony D. Fredericks, Will Hobbs, Carole Boston Weatherford, and Sam Swope. Elementary, middle, and high school student groups each follow their own schedules during the day. Each group will have an individual session with the authors to talk about books the authors have written and the craft of writing.

Each public school district in South Carolina is invited to send students to participate. The number of students eligible to attend For more information, visit http://www.ackinson.com/ from each district is determined by the student enrollment of the scholarhips.htm.

district. Approximately 400 students attend the yearly confer-

If you have questions about the conference or would like to volunteer to help at the conference, contact Caroline Savage at csavage@sde.state.sc.us or 803-734-4770.

Ackinson Consulting is offering a \$1750 scholarship to all students who will enter a post-secondary institution in 2005 or 2006. The scholarship will be awarded November 6, 2005.

Students must submit a short answer to the questions, "Where do you see yourself five years after attaining your desired postsecondary education?" The scholarship question will change periodically to help differentiate potential candidates. To view the changes to the question, visit the website at http:// www.ackinson.com/scholarhips.htm.

Submissions should not exceed 1000 words. E-mail your submissions to Ackinson Consulting at scholarship@ackinson.com.

Integrating Viewing into the ELA Classroom

By Frank Baker Media Literacy Consultant

Since the SDE revised the ELA teaching standards to include viewing, educators have been asking for advice and recommendations. In early August, elaboration and further explanation of the new standards will be posted on the SDE ELA webtimes, and locations are on page 2 of this winndixie.jsp. newsletter.

workshop, Media Literacy In the Middle, at new teaching guide strengthens underthe National Media Education Conference standing of First Amendment rights and in San Francisco. The handouts and other resources used by me and my colleague, to become media-savvy. The curriculum to educators for the discounted rate Dr. David Considine, are posted at http:// medialit.med.sc.edu/nmec2005.htm.

New Resources Available

Middle schools around the US will soon be ganda phrases. receiving a new film study curriculum called The Story of Movies. The Story of Movies is a nationwide educational project by director Martin Scorsese) to expose young people to classic cinema and the social and cultural significance of film. The In September, the National Institute of curriculum will help students think contextually about the role of film and expression in American culture—encouraging creativity and critical thinking in today's multicultural student population.

More information is at http:// www.storyofmovies.org

On August 9th, the DVD of the motion informed decision-making. picture Because of Winn Dixie will be reand many may wish to consider purchasing http://www.nichd.nih.gov. the DVD. Having your students examine the "language of film" is another way of The July/August issue of Adbusters magazine helping them meet the new ELA standards. is a special issue focusing on education and

Visit the movie website at http:// site. In addition, at the request of the ELA www.becauseofwinndixiemovie.com. the tools they need to jump over the great team, I will be conducting two Best Prac- Walden Media has also produced a tice "Media Literacy" workshops (one for free teacher guide which can be elementary and one for middle and high downloaded from http:// school) on the new standards. Dates, www.walden.com/teach/movies/

The Bill of Rights Institute has just pub-This past June, I co-presented a day-long lished Media and American Democracy. This develops the analytical skills students need Adbusters is offering this special issue includes resources such as a list of landmark Supreme Court cases, a media milestones timeline, and glossaries of journalism terms, rhetorical devices, and propa-

Details are at http:// billofrightsinstitute.networkats.com/ designed by The Film Foundation (created Instructional/ProductCatalog/ detail.asp?book_id=6.

> Health (NIH) plans to release a new, fieldtested curriculum, Media-Smart Youth. Media-Smart Youth is a multi-year media literages II to I3 to become more aware of the role media play in shaping their values about nutrition and physical activity and to Details about this magazine are at help them build skills that encourage critical thinking, healthy lifestyle choices, and metro/frm.htm?highlight=1.

leased. Many schools already use the novel The free curriculum will be posted at

media literacy. Entitled "The Game of Life," the magazine aims to give students divide between passive consumption and the empowered production of meaning. It discusses ways in which we can change how information flows, how we interact with the mass media, and how media and culture are created in our society. The goal is to show students that anyone can seize the media reins and begin producing his own media and his own real meaning.

of \$5 for single copies and \$3 each for bulk orders of ten or more. To place an order, send an e-mail to laura@adbuster.org.

Another periodical schools may wish to consider subscribing to is Screen Education, published in Australia. Screen Education is written by teachers and researchers for use in primary and secondary classrooms. The magazine is full of practical ideas and classroom activities and is firmly grounded in theory. Screen Education builds on more than 40 years' experience, by Australian Teachers of Media and Cinemedia Screen acy initiative to encourage young people Education staff, in delivering screen literacy programs for teachers and students.

http://www.metromagazine.com/au/

Matching Book Grants Help Build Classroom Libraries

The Literacy Empowerment Foundation (LEF) has increased the The LEF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. LEF currently supmatched.

The Matching Book Grant Program offers Guided Reading and Independent Reading Collections. Guided Reading Collections Orders must be received by September 30, 2005. Inforconsist of six copies each of eighteen titles. Independent reading mation and a matching book grant order form are avail-Collections consist of one copy each of 108 titles. With each set able at http://www.lefbooks.org. of Guided Reading and/or Independent Reading Collections purchased at the regular price, an additional set of books will be included.

size of the matching grants available to \$8,000 per school. A plies books to over 15,000 schools. The number of books availschool can now order \$16,000 worth of books and pay only able in the Matching Book Grant Program has increased dramati-\$8,000. Any amount purchased from \$100 to \$8,000 will be cally. Matching Book Grants allow your school to double its purchasing power. This is a limited time offer that requires no special screening or application.

For This Coach, Defeat Turns Into Success—Part 1

literacy coach in SCRI-MG, Phase I

A tall heavy set 13-year old boy clumsily of notebook paper.

"Here, Miz Fagan. Miz Temple wants you to come to our room for a minute," he announced. Gary stood hovering over my respond immediately.

the short message:

Can you come to my room? M.T.

was the beginning of my understanding of a reading practice I felt was detrimental to my sons' learning, ended as a triumphant stepping stone into another boy's wonder of reading.

As the mother of II-year old twins and a language arts teacher. I have seen several great reading incentive programs come and go. Yet, I never felt that my children would personally get hurt by any of them, until this year.

My sons are real boys. They are not angels or mini versions of the recent Nobel Peace Prize winners. But, they are good readers. And they have always loved to read. Until this year. My older son, Connor, will do whatever is necessary to accomplish the task set before him, and he'll do it well. He'll complete it, and move on. However, the other twin, lan, will question every decision and do things in his own time; he'll find a "better" way to complete the task. He is stubborn, but he will eventually come around.

My sons' teachers sent a letter home de- As tears welled in my eyes, I said, "That's To read how Pam's story turned into a huge scribing new procedures in using their not fair." reading incentive program. Students would be graded on the number of points they The four elementary staff members simulcollected during the semester based on taneously said the three words I thought their reading scores from a separate read- I'd never hear any public school employee

This article was written by Pam Fagan, a ing test. The student would have to read utter: "Life's not fair." books in this program to participate in the year-end reading celebration. After sending I had lost the battle for my boys to read several articles that explained how a com- what they wanted. Connor continued with walked into my office with a folded piece mercialized reading incentive program is the program, reached his goal, and then harmful to students, I requested a meeting quietly stopped any reading for pleasure. with my sons' teachers and administration. He hasn't finished a book since. lan contin-I was told that the grading component had ued to read whatever his heart led him to, been removed from the picture, and I was occasionally being reprimanded by the left to discuss the other negative points. As teacher for reading during class. He was, at desk waiting for me to open the note and the teachers raved about how wonderful times, encouraged to "make up" tests for the program is for "making" children read, the program, but he preferred to "just I returned with "Don't sell yourself short read." He was not allowed to attend the "Gary, tell Mrs. Temple that I'll be there in as a teacher. This program does not make end-of-the-year reading celebration, so I let just a minute. I have to finish something for my children or any child want to read; you him stay at home that day, reading the last Mr. Simpson." I opened the note and read and an excitement for books are what of the Narnia books—for fun. makes a child read."

I shared research about fluency and lack of it in our schools today. I shared research This invitation, though simple and succinct on how these programs actually cause some middle school students to quit readmy relevance as a literacy coach. In my first ing altogether because they are only readyear in this position, I was at times unsure ing for extrinsic reasons. Of course, the if I truly would and could make a difference teachers agreed, but they would continue in a teacher's life, much less a student's. spewing the same rhetoric they had re-What started as a personal crusade against hearsed before I arrived. As I passionately fought for my boys' rights to reread and read whatever they wanted to, the group seemed to wise up, and began agreeing with me. I thought I was making headway.

> "So, in conclusion here, you all agree that my boys should be able to reread any text and read books not offered through this program. And they will be able to participate in the end-of-the-year reading celebration if they still read?" I asked.

> "They can read whatever they want, but they won't be able to participate. They won't have read the program books and gotten the points. They don't have to participate," one teacher corrected me.

> "Do you mean if my children read the same amount or more than the other children, but don't read the books you want them to, they can't participate in the celebration of reading?"

"That's right."

After many meetings with my children's teachers and principal and accepting my failure to convert these well-meaning educators, I traveled to Charleston, South Carolina, to attend the annual South Carolina Literacy Conference. My eyes leapt onto the page of the conference program. Tim Rasinsky was presenting on fluency.

Rasinsky eloquently spoke about how "certain reading incentive programs" actually deter students from becoming fluent in their reading. One of the core strategies for fluency is to have students reread texts. Many reading incentive programs will not allow students to reread texts.

His passion touched me. I knew why he felt so deeply. I did, too. Then he introduced an idea (not really new to me), that would build the fluency of a reader almost automatically. This strategy is Reader's Theater. I was familiar with the strategy, but until I heard him speak, its simplistic approach did not connect with me. He presented a segment of a new program in which Reader's Theater is the basis of the reading program in a self-contained classroom where the students were all learning disabled and their reading levels were two to three years below their ages. I was impressed with the excitement in the children's voices as they were able to articulate how this strategy had affected them and their learning. I knew what I had to do.

success, the conclusion will abbear in the Sebtember issue of Literacy Links. I bromise, the wait will be worth it when you hear the rest of

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEAM OFFICE OF CURRICULUM AND STANDARDS **SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Suzette Lee, Coordinator 803-A Rutledge Building 1429 Senate Street Columbia, South Carolina 29201

> Phone: 803-734-6103 Fax: 803-734-6142 Email: slee@sde.state.sc.us



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Literacy Links volume IV

The Office of Curriculum and Standards provides statewide leadership and services to schools and districts to ensure the implementation of grade-level standards-based instruction for all students.

We accomplish this by:

- developing and revising academic standards and expanding support materi-
- promoting the use of effective evidence-based instructional practices by schools and districts; and
- facilitating the implementation of programs, projects, grants, and activities that support standards-based instruction

State Department of Education Events

August

- 10 **Gifted Coordinators** Meeting, Columbia
- 26 SC Geographic Alliance **Geofest XXX, Columbia**

September

- 7 **SC** Association of Curriculum and Supervision November Fall Conference, Columbia
- **Assistant Principals** 8 Roundtable, Columbia
- **ELA Coordinators Fall Up** date. Columbia
- 14-16 SC Association of School **Administrators Assistant Principals Fall Conference**, Greenville
- 18 **United States Constitution** Day
- 28-30 SC EdTEC Conference, **Myrtle Beach**

<u>October</u>

- 5-7 **WIN Fall Writing** Conference, Greenville
- SC International Education Summit, Columbia
- **SC** Teachers for Early 8 **Language Learning** Workshop, Columbia

6-12 Patriotism Week

Registration Form English Language Arts Standards Support Document Professional Development Sessions

This professional development is intended for any teacher or administrator or team of teachers and administrators to support the understanding and implementation of support documents related to the *South Carolina English Language Arts Curriculum Standards* 2002.

Instructions: To register for these sessions, please complete this form and mail it to Judy Redman at Post Office Box 10101, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731. Please indicate the two session(s) your team will attend by placing and X in the column beside the date(s) of the session(s). You should register your team for one session in the fall and one in the spring. The fall and spring sessions will be different. A confirmation e-mail will be sent to the team contact person. Unless you receive a confirmation, do not consider your team registered. Directions to the session locations will be posted to the State Department of Education website. If you have any questions concerning your registration, please contact Judy Redman at iredman@comporium.net. If you have any questions concerning the sessions, contact Cathy Jones at 803-734-0790 or cjones@sde.state.sc.us. ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD IN COLUMBIA FROM 9:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M. Lunch will be provided.

Please indicate with an "X", beside the SESSION column, the two session(s) you wish to attend.

Session	X	Session Date	Registration Deadline	Location
Fall 1		September 13, 2005	September 2, 2005	Embassy Suites Hotel
Fall 2		November 17, 2005	November 1, 2005	Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
Fall 3		December 7, 2005	November 18, 2005	Clarion Town House Hotel
Spring 1		January 25, 2006	January 9, 2006	Seawell's
Spring 2		February 6, 2006	January 20, 2006	Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
Spring 3		March 14, 2006	February 27, 2006	Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

Please provide the following information for the contact person for your school. It will be the contact person's responsibility to communicate session details to the other team members.

Name	
Position	
District	School
Street Address	
City	
Telephone ()	Fax ()
School E-mail	
Additional team member(s):	
Name:	Postiton:
Name:	Position:
Name:	
Name:	Position:

Registration Form 2005-06 English Language Arts Best Practice Seminars

A series of seminars highlighting best practices in the area of English language arts will be offered during the 2005-2006 school year to South Carolina K-12 educators by the English Language Arts Team in the Office of Curriculum and Standards at the State Department of Education and the South Carolina Council of the International Reading Association (SCIRA). A schedule of the sessions, dates, audiences, and locations is included with this registration form.

Please check the registration chart for the location of each session, as the locations vary. Each session will begin at 9:30 A.M. and conclude at 3:30 P.M. Lunch will be provided.

Instructions: To register for any of these seminars, please complete the form on the next page and mail it and a *check made payable to SCIRA for \$50.00 for each session for which you are registering* to Judy Redman at Post Office Box 10101, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731. Payment is due with registration. No purchase orders will be accepted. Participation will be on a first-come with check, first-served basis. A confirmation e-mail will be sent to registrants. Unless you receive a confirmation, do not consider yourself registered. Directions to the session location will be posted to the State Department of Education website at www.myscschools.com.

If you have any questions concerning your registration, please contact Judy Redman at iredman@comporium.net. or fax at 803-329-1952. If you have any questions concerning the seminar, contact Cathy Jones at 803-734-0790 or cjones@sde.state.sc.us.

Registration Form2005-06 English Language Arts Best Practice Seminars

Please indicate with an "X," the session(s) you wish to attend.

X	Session	Date/Presenter	Registration Deadline	Location
	1	September 23, 2005 Cathy Toll	September 9, 2005	Embassy Suites
	2	October 20, 2005 Cris Tovani	September 30, 2005	TBD
	3	November 1, 2005 Frank Baker	October 18, 2005	Embassy Suites
	4	November 4, 2005 Frank Baker	October 21, 2005	Leaside
	5	December 8, 2005 Nancy Akhavan	November 24, 2005	Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
	6	January 12, 2006 Ellin Keene	December 20, 2005	Columbia Conference Center
	7	February 2, 2006 Barry Lane	January 19, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
	8	March 2, 2006 Chryse Hutchins	February 16, 2006	Seawell's
	9	March 6, 2006 Jim Trelease	February 20, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
	10	March 20, 2006 Lester Laminack	March 6, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
	11	March 21, 2006 Lester Laminack	March 7, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
	12	April 4, 2006 Barbara King-Shaver	March 21, 2006	Columbia Conference Center

Name		
Position		Grade
District	School	
Street Address		
City		p Code
Telephone ()	Fax ()	
School E-mail		
Home Street Address		
City	State Zi	p Code
Telephone ()	Fax()	
Home F-mail		

Registration Form Fall 2005 English Language Arts Update September 12, 2005

Instructions:

If you plan to attend the statewide English language arts update on September 12, 2005, please complete this form and either mail, fax, or e-mail it to Judy Redman according to the information provided below. Please respond by Friday, September 9, 2005.

Judy Redman Post Office Box 10101 Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731	 803-329-1952 jredman@comporium.net
Please complete.	
Name	
Position	
District/College/University	
Email Address	

List items that you would like placed on the agenda or questions that you would like answered.